

Support for S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262 regarding Absentee Voting

Hearing: FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2022 – 10:00 AM

I am writing in support of S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262, bills that will make absentee voting more accessible during the current pandemic and, in the case of H.B. 5262, future pandemics. This is extremely important to me because I don't want to be forced to risk my health in order to vote. I used absentee voting in both 2020 and 2021 during the pandemic for this reason. Also, I am concerned about friends who have more serious health conditions than I or live with others with health conditions who are at great risk were they to get sick through exposure at the polls.

Please continue the COVID19 safety measures for 2022 and allow everyone who fears exposure to COVID19 to vote by absentee ballot. Please also support the House Bill to conform the statutory language to the Constitution's language regarding illness. There is no reason to make the statute more restrictive than the Constitution in giving voters an excuse to vote absentee due to illness. A highly contagious deadly illness in a voter's community should be reason enough.

Thank you

Gail Berritt
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